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For the Year 1961



P U B L I C H E A L T H O F F I C E R S O F T H E

A U T H O R I T Y

(a)

Part time M.O.H.

G. Nicholson, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

2 The Larches, Tiverton. Tel.2652

(b)

Public Health Inspector and
Meat and Food Inspector

Charles Jeffries, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H.

7 St. Peter Street, Tiverton. Tel.3306



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REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the Borough of Tiverton.

For the year ended 31st. December, 1961.

7 St. Peter Street,
Tiverton,
Devon.

May, 1962.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to lay before you my Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year ending 31st. December, 1961.

Area. Although the Borough covers an area of 17,680 acres, the Town itself covers 300 acres only.

Population. Estimated 12,460.

Inhabited Houses. Number in 1961 was 4201.

Rateable Value is £184,242.

Estimated Penny Rate Product 1961 - 1962. £748.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	
Live (Legitimate	238	127	111	Birth Rate:
Births (Illegitimate	9	7	2	19.8 per 1000
Illegitimate live births were 3.64% of total births.				
Still (Legitimate	3	3	0	Total 3
Births (Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Rate per 1000: 12.1
Corrected Birth Rate. 19.6 per 1000				
Deaths...	172	87	85	Death Rate: 13.8 per 1000.
Corrected Death Rate. ... 12.7 per 1000.				

Deaths from Pregnancy and Childbirth, 0; Puerperal Sepsis, 0;

Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1000 total births - 24.2

Deaths of Infants (under four weeks) Total 5 only.

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age - 6

" " " " 1 week " " - 4

Illegitimate infants under 1 year " " - 0

Illegitimate infants " 4 weeks " " - Nil

Deaths from Measles ... - Nil

" " Whooping Cough... - Nil

" " Diarrhoea... Nil

A drop of 15 from the previous year.

Looking Back.

The result of this will be a steady decrease in spinster labour which is bound to affect the staffing of senior nursing posts and can only lead to an increase in the employment of married women part-timers.

I append herewith a full list of the causes of Death in 1931 as compared to 1961:-

Disease.	Year 1931	Year 1961
Influenza	7	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System...	3	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	0
Cancer, malignant disease	7	27
Diabetes	3	1
Cerebral Hoemorrhage, &c.	8	39
Heart Disease	32	14
Aneurysm	0	0
Other Circulatory Diseases & Coronary ...	5	29
Bronchitis... ..	6	11
Pneumonia (all forms)	13	13
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1
Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years).	1	0
Appendicitis.	1	0
Cirrhosis of Liver.	0	0
Other Diseases of Liver, &c....	1	0
Other Digestive Diseases.	7	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	5	2
Puerperal Sepsis... ..	1	0
Other Puerperal Causes... ..	0	0
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, &c....	4	5
Senility	3	0
Suicide	2	2
Other Violence	3	8
Other Defined Diseases... ..	9	12
Hyperplasia of Prostate..	0	2
Hypertension.	0	3

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

1. Nursing in the Home. No change.
2. Domiciliary Midwifery. We have two district midwives. We are fortunate in having an M.R.C.O.G. resident in the town who can be called up in difficult cases.
3. Laboratory Facilities. The County Laboratory connected with the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital. The County Laboratory has now removed to the University premises.
4. Health Education. Several lectures were given on prevention of Home accidents and on the cause of lung cancer by the Medical Officer of Health.
5. Chiropody Services. Service operates for the old people and is run by their association and which is fairly satisfactory. The Devon County Council and the local factory both supply chiropody services.
6. Hospital Services. A scheme is under preparation to concentrate the Hospital Services on the Belmont Hospital. The District Hospital will be either sold or put to another use. The surgical cover for the district has been rendered dangerously inadequate by the death and retirement of two of the three surgical S.H.M.O.s.

The medical services have been greatly strengthened by the appointment of a Consultant Physician who divides his time between Tiverton and Exeter.

Maternity Hospital Services. Accommodation is inadequate and many cases, requiring hospitalization are referred elsewhere. We are fortunate in having an M.R.C.O.G. on the hospital staff who is in charge of the department and provides valuable cover for the doctors who do maternity work in the hospital. Cases are sent in from a wide area and Tiverton provides an invaluable service to the whole district in this branch of medicine.

Whipton Isolation Hospital. Infectious cases are sent to this hospital where accommodation is always adequate.

An ante-natal Clinic is held every Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. at the Tiverton and District Hospital.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is held at the Tiverton and District Hospital twice monthly.

7. Liaison arrangements. Our local hospitals are largely staffed by general practitioners which constitutes an advantage as regards liaison.
8. Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers. None in the Area.
9. Ambulance Facilities. No change.
10. Social Worker in Mental Health and duly authorised officer:-
Mr. P. D. Charles, The Clinic, St. Andrew Street, Tiverton.
11. Clinics and Treatment Centres:-

Minor Ailments Clinic. Wednesdays 9 - 12 a.m.
Dr. Hinde and Mrs. Sparks, the Health Visitor, in attendance.

Remedial Exercise Clinic. Wednesdays 11 - 12 a.m.
Mrs. Sparks, the Health Visitor, in attendance.

Ophthalmic Clinic. 2nd. Tuesdays in alternate months commencing January etc. Dr. Chateuredi in attendance. By appointment.

Speech Therapy Clinics. Wednesdays 9 - 12 a.m. and 2 - 4 p.m.
Miss Chapman, Speech Therapist, in attendance.

School Dental Service. Emergency treatment
Wednesdays 9 - 12.30 a.m.
Orthodontic treatment Mr. Peacock by appointment.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. This Centre is open weekly
on Wednesdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinic. Thursday afternoons 2 - 4.30 p.m. Run by District Midwives and Health Visitors. Talks on elementary dietetics, care of baby etc.

The attendances for 1961 at Child Welfare Centre were as follows:-

Total infants attending for first time	...	...	...	112
Total children, 1 to 5 years, attending for first time.				15
Number on Register at end of year - Infants	...	...		120
" " " " " " " - 1 to 5 years.			...	173
Number of attendances during 1961 - Infants	...	...		1013
" " " " " " " - 1 to 5 years.			...	342

The Mothers and Children have had supervision and advice both at the Welfare weekly by the Medical Officer and the Health Visitor, and in their houses by the Health Visitor. Simple treatment has been given where considered sufficient, in other cases the mothers were referred to their private doctor for treatment.

Home Help Service. Cases are dealt with direct through Mrs. Taverner in conjunction with the W.V.S. Some Maternity cases in the area are dealt with direct by the District Nurses.

The Orthopaedic Clinic was held on 52 Tuesdays during the year - Appointments are made by the Secretary, Mrs. D. A. Birch, and this works very well.

Number on Register 1/1/61 ...	...	...	...	...	...	240
" " " 31/12/61..	...	...	...	...	...	249
Sessions held by Surgeons 48: After care Sister 27..	...	...	...	...	...	75
New Cases...	...	...	...	...	...	332
Discharges..	...	...	...	...	...	398
Admitted to Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Average weekly attendances...	...	...	...	...	...	23
No. of attendances ...	...	...	...	...	...	1306
Admissions: Adults ...	...	...	...	...	...	272
School Age..	...	...	...	...	...	41
Under School Age and Infants..	...	...	...	...	...	19
						<u>332</u>

Some of the elder patients have been trained at St. Loyes's College for the Disabled, in connection with the Clinic, the aim being the complete rehabilitation of the patients.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Scabies. None reported during the year.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunization. Vaccination procedure administered by County Council and a Clinic is held for this purpose on each Wednesday. The majority of cases are dealt with by local doctors at their surgeries. The percentage of children immunised continues to be highly satisfactory.

Poliomyelitis. No case of this disease has occurred during the year. Inoculation against this disease is being carried out at the local factory during working hours. The response continues to be very satisfactory and is maintained in the region of 100% for the under 40's.

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality in 1961.

Public Health. (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925).
No action taken.

Tuberculosis. NEW CASES DEATHS

Age Period.	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Meninges		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Meninges	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Age NK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-

Notifiable Disease tables
cont'd.

Notifiable Diseases.

Age Incidence.

Age Period.	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 2	-	-	-	-	-	1
3 to 4	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 9	3	-	-	-	-	-
10 to 14	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 24	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 to 40	1	-	-	-	-	-
40 to 65	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	1
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	6	-	-	-	-	2

Age Period.	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic/Non	Acute Encephalitis Infective/Post Infective
Under 1 year	2	3	-	-
1 to 2	23	2	-	-
3 to 4	19	-	-	-
5 to 9	47	3	-	-
10 to 14	2	-	-	-
15 to 24	-	-	-	-
25 to 40	-	-	-	-
40 to 65	1	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-
Totals	94	8	-	-

General Observations

Sewage.

A scheme for a new sewage disposal works has been prepared and sewers are now being relaid and renovated.

It is hoped that the possibility of introducing a composting scheme will be kept in view.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE NICHOLSON

Medical Officer of Health

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

to the Borough of Tiverton

1st. January to 31st. December, 1961.

Public Health Department,
7 St. Peter Street,
Tiverton.

May, 1962. .

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
of the Tiverton Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my sixteenth Annual Report dealing with the duties of my department during the year 1961.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

The Town's water supply is controlled by the North Devon Water Board.

1. The water supply for the Town has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.
2. Bacteriological examinations have been made at regular monthly intervals of the treated water going into supply. Water from the Allers supply (source springs at Norwood Common, supplemented by pumping from River Exe) is both filtered and chlorinated. Water from the Warnicombe supply is only chlorinated. The public mains water at Bickleigh is from the Butterleigh supply and is filtered and chlorinated. The waters have no plumbo-solvent action.

3. The monthly routine samples taken of the Warnicombe and Butterleigh supplies were consistently satisfactory apart from one sample of the latter supply. In the case of the Allers source, which supplies almost all the premises in the Town proper, a routine sample taken on the 20th. June gave a count of 5 coli aerogenes per 100 ml, and a faecal count of 2.

On receipt of the report on the examination of the water sample, I immediately informed the Engineer of the North Devon Water Board, and I took further samples on the 27th. June at the Horsdon Abattoir and at the Great House and in each case the count had risen considerably.

Further samples on the 4th. July gave the following results:-

Horsdon Abattoir. 250 per 100 ml. Bact. Coli (type 1) 250 per 100 ml.

The Great House. -----"-----"----- 50 -----"-----"

The sampling results showed the trouble was serious and persisting and efforts were made to locate the seat of the trouble and on the 10th. July, I was informed that this had been found.

The trouble was caused by a connection, made during the war, from the rising main from Bolham pumping station to the Allers works, to Knightshayes.

This connection was also connected at the works on the distribution main from Allers to the Town and was controlled by a valve. The valve was found to be partially on and raw untreated water was therefore going into the treated water. The hot weather had resulted in a great increase in the organic matter in the raw River Exe water and the amount of chlorine available in the treated water was therefore insufficient to sterilize the untreated water mixed with it. The mains have been flushed out and a hypo-chlorination used on the mains to give 0.5 parts per million available chlorine. The trouble was first shown up by the samples taken and submitted by me for examination on the 20th. June, when the count was 5 coli organisms per 100 ml. and a faecal count of 2.

Water Supply. (cont'd).

This incident serves to illustrate the value of taking regular routine samples for examination.

4. The population of the Borough is 12,460 occupying 4201 houses. The number of dwelling-houses and population supplied from public water mains direct to the houses is 3606 houses 10,818 population. The number of dwelling-houses and population supplied from public water mains by means of stand-pipes is 145 houses 435 population.
5. The Council owns and runs a public swimming bath. The bath is an open bath and is in use only during the Summer. The water is obtained from the public main supply and a filtration and chlorination plant keeps the water in a highly satisfactory condition.

RESULTS OF SAMPLING

Source of Supply.	No. of Samples.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Allers Public Main.	16	9	7
Warnicombe Public Main.	9	9	-
Butterleigh Public Main.	10	9	1
Farms and Other Premises.	21	9	12

Other Premises. One chemical sample taken.

In the case of farm premises and dwelling houses advice was given and follow up visits made to assist in obtaining satisfactory water supplies.

FOOD

MEAT, MILK AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat.

537 Visits of Inspection were made to the Horsdon Abattoir for the purpose of meat inspection.

1. Ante and post-mortem inspections were made in the case of ALL animals slaughtered at the abattoir.

2. The Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection Grant) Regulations, 1958.
Exchequer Grant towards cost of Meat Inspection.

1st. April 1960 to 31st. March 1961. (Note:- Financial year does not coincide with Calendar Year).

Inspection Units = 28952

Tiverton Datum

Figure = 18690

Excess = 10262 Units

Exchequer grant towards cost of meat inspection service should therefore amount to £42 - 15 - 2

cont'd.

Meat.(cont'd).

Details of animals slaughtered and amounts of meat and offal condemned as diseased or unfit:-

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	2605	73	35	688	6
Number Inspected...	"	"	"	"	"
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT T.B. :-					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	1	-	6	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	962	47	-	48	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	36.92%	65.75%	-	7.85%	-
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:-					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-
CYSTICERCOSIS:-					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	4	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	4	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned....	Nil	-	-	-	-

<u>BOVINES</u>		
<u>No. of Carcasses</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
-	Nil.	-
<u>Parts of Carcasses</u>		
1	Arthritis & Local Oedema.	47
2	Abscesses.	268
3		315
<u>Offal</u>	Various.	11559
<u>No. of Carcasses</u>	<u>BEEF - Tuberculosis</u>	
<u>Parts or Offal.</u>	Nil	-

<u>BEEF - Cysticercosis</u>		
<u>Offal</u>	Cysticercus Bovis.	116
Total Weight of BEEF Condemned. 2 cwts. 3 qrs. 7 lbs.		
"	" " OFFAL "	5 tons. 4 cwts. 0 qrs. 27 lbs.

<u>PIGS</u>		
No. of Carcasses Parts or Offal.	<u>Diseases</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Nil.		-
	<u>Tuberculosis.</u>	
"	Nil.	-

<u>SHEEP</u>		
No. of Carcasses	<u>Diseases</u>	<u>Weight</u>
1	Pregnancy Toxaemia.	63
1	Septic Mastitis.	55
1	Septicaemia.	25
1	Inflammation.	8
1	Pyaemia.	60
1	Oedema & Injury.	48
<u>6</u>		<u>259</u>
Parts of Carcasses		
1	Abscesses.	10
1	Pleurisy.	10
1	Inflammation & Oedema.	39
<u>3</u>		<u>59</u>
<u>Offal</u>	Various.	77
Total Weight of MUTTON Condemned. 2 cwts. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.		
"	" " OFFAL "	2 " 21 "

<u>CALVES</u>		
No. of Carcasses Parts or Offal.	<u>Diseases</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Nil.		-
	<u>Tuberculosis</u>	
"	Nil.	-

Condemned Meat is collected for fertilizer manufacture.

Condemned Food is used for pig food when practicable, otherwise destroyed on Council's refuse tip.

37 Visits made to shops for purpose of inspection and condemnation of unsound food.

The following is a list of food condemned:-

	<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u>		<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u>
		lbs.			lbs.
				Br/fd.	804 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned	Meat.....	418 $\frac{3}{4}$	Tinned	Spaghetti.....	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
"	Ham.....	58	"	Coffee.....	$\frac{1}{2}$
"	Soup.....	16	Bottled	Sauce.....	$\frac{1}{2}$
"	Fish.....	31	Jars	Jam.....	50 $\frac{1}{4}$
"	Vegetables.....	42 $\frac{3}{4}$	Box	Dried Fruit.....	57 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Fruit.....	226	Pkts.	Bacon.....	15
"	Fruit Drink.....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$		Sweets.....	125
"	Milk.....	6		Cereal.....	28
"	Cream.....	<u>$\frac{1}{2}$</u>		Poultry.....	<u>33</u>
		Cr/fd. 804 $\frac{1}{2}$		Total.	<u>1116$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

Total Weight of Food Condemned. 9 cwts. 3 qrs. 24 lbs. 8 ozs.

MILK AND OTHER FOODS.

The number of food premises in the Council's area totals 177 made up as follows:-

Table of food premises.

Dairies...	...	...	...	...	8
Meat Purveyors (Butchers)...	...	...	...	...	12
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	14
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	3
Fish and Chip Friers..	...	...	...	...	5
Restaurants and Cafés.	...	...	...	...	8
Grocers...	...	...	...	...	39
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	10
Confectioners...	...	...	...	...	15
Public Houses...	...	...	...	...	25
Off Licensed Premises.	...	...	...	...	8
Factory Canteens	...	...	...	...	4
Hospitals etc...	...	...	...	...	6
School Canteens.	...	...	...	...	14
Boarding Houses etc...	...	...	...	...	6
Total					177

Registered Premises under Sec.16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

Manufacture, Storage and Sale of Ice Cream.	...	64
Preparation etc. and Sale of Sausages, or		
Preserved Foods.	...	26
Dairies	...	8

59 Inspections were carried out at Registered Food Premises, including dairies; In all cases of premises selling Ice Cream, refrigerators were inspected for cleanliness and temperature readings were taken.

In every case the refrigerators were found to be efficient and temperatures satisfactory.

Ice Cream is sold from 64 premises and the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc) Regulations are strictly enforced.

The standard of personal cleanliness in all registered premises was found to be generally high.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 - 56.

Visits to food premises and inspections of delivery vans totalled 62.
Number of prosecutions....Nil.

Sampling.

Food samples taken for testing during the year totalled 1.

SLUM CLEARANCE

During 1961, the Council passed a resolution declaring the following properties to be a "Clearance Area".

Number of Houses.

Nos. 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16/18, 20/22 West Exe South)	...	11
Nrs. 1, 2, 3, 4 Riverside, West Exe South.)	

Chapel Street Compulsory Purchase Order.

Following an Official Enquiry, the Minister of Housing and Local Government confirmed the Compulsory Purchase Order, subject to the transfer of No. 4 Chapel Street from Part I (Lands within the Clearance Area) to Part III (Lands outside the Clearance Area).

Individual Houses Demolished.

Leverlake, Chettiscombe.	1
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Houses made fit during year. Sec. 9 & 16 Housing Act.

After informal action...	107
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IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Out of a total of 58 "Standard Grant" applications, 58 were finally approved. During the year improvement work was completed in the case of 20 premises and Completion Certificates issued.

Also during the year 4 "Discretionary Grant" applications were finally approved, and improvement work was completed in the case of 1 property and Completion Certificate issued.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

FACTORIES IN DETAIL.		INSPECTIONS.		
Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	10	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	81	10	4	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	37	68	Nil	Nil
Totals.	128	78	4	Nil

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948 (cont'd)

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of Cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred - To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness.	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation.	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences.					
(a) insufficient.	2	1	-	1	-
(b) unsuitable or defective.	2	2	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	2	2	-	-	-
Totals	7	6	-	1	-

OUTWORK

Number of Out-Workers required by Sect. 110
Class 1 ... 17
" 29 ... 47

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

A total of 12 tanks were tested during the year.

41 Licences were re-issued for the storage of 47,210 gallons of Petroleum Spirit, 49,350 gallons Petroleum Mixtures, and 230 gallons Cellulose & Thinners.

EXPLOSIVES ACT, 1875.

24 applications were received for the registration of premises for the storage of gunpowder and mixed explosives, and Certificates of Registration were granted.

45 Inspections were carried out in connection with the above Acts.

COUNCIL'S REFUSE TIP - ASHLEY

During the year systematic disinfection was again carried on at the Council's Refuse tip, in order to keep down the number of flies, wasps, and crickets.

7 treatments for the extermination of rats were carried out by Mr. Luxon, the Council's Rodent Operator.

Colonies of rats amounted to 3 reservoir and 4 major infestations.

RODENT CONTROL

Properties Inspected.

Local Authority ...	11
Dwelling Houses ...	152
Business Premises...	90
Agricultural ...	<u>40</u>
Total	<u>293</u>

83 Poison treatments for extermination of rats were carried out. The main system employed for rodent control is one of the prevention of the setting up of colonies by travelling rats. "Fenn" traps are used at fourteen (14) large premises in the town and the number of rats caught is shown in the following table:-

Long Drag...	...	...	...	...	11
Recreation Ground.	...	...	...	...	15
J. Heathcoat Factory	...	...	...	...	28
Hammins - Town Mills	...	...	...	...	7
Hammins - St. Andrew Street...	...	...	...	...	147
Little Silver Depot	...	...	...	...	9
Co-operative Society, Gold Street...	...	...	...	...	-
Tiverton Brewery..	...	...	...	...	31
East Devon Farmers Ltd..	...	...	...	...	44
G. Small & Son	...	...	...	...	42
Near Bendings.	...	...	...	...	8
Hay Park	...	...	...	...	108
Roller Mills.	...	...	...	...	39
Bending & Son.	...	...	...	...	8
Blundell's Road Car Park.	...	...	...	...	<u>15</u>
Total					<u>512</u>

Had this large number of rats been allowed to settle and commence breeding, trouble would have been widespread and damage to foodstuffs extensive and costly in addition to the known dangers to health of the inhabitants of Tiverton. It has been noticeable that complaints of severe infestations by rats on farm premises has increased and might be attributed to the indiscriminate use of "Warfarin" baits, setting up poison prejudice and possibly immunity.

Three maintenance treatments to the Council's sewers were carried out during the year, the area of infestation being restricted to the older sewers in the old part of the town.

Mr. Luxon, the Council's Rodent Operator has given his usual conscientious and efficient service and the success of the Council's rodent service owes much to his keenness and loyalty.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Water Samples taken:-	Public Mains	...	35
	Other Premises & Farms	...	21
	Chemical Samples	...	2
Slaughterhouse..	...	...	537
Dairies...	...	...	-
Food & Drugs Act.	...	...	15
Food Sampling...	...	...	1
Delivery Vans...	...	...	2
Ice Cream and Preserved Foods	...	...	7
Food Shops re. Condemned Foods	...	...	37
Factories Act...	...	...	72
Inspections re. Complaints..	...	...	139
Re-Visits.	...	...	<u>136</u>

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR (cont'd).

	Br/fd 1004
Drainage.	283
Disinfection and Disinfestation..	28
Infectious Diseases..	2
Caravans.	35
Slum Clearance Inspections & Revisits..	17
Housing Act Visits...	-
Improvement Grants...	204
Pet Animals Act	2
Rodent Control.	6
Food Poisoning.	2
Petroleum and Explosives Licensing	45
Petroleum Tanks Tested	12
Rent Act.	-
Waste Foods Order	4
Septic Tank effluent disposal ...	5
Means of Escape in Case of Fire..	2
Clean Air Act..	3
Miscellaneous..	15
Total	<u>1669</u>

Conclusion.

I again wish to pay tribute to the conscientious and loyal service given to the Council in the carrying out of her duties by Miss Newton, and would stress her value to the running of the Department.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES JEFFRIES

Public Health Inspector

